

*The contention of the two famous Houses,*

*West.* Why he is both King and Duke of Lancaster,  
And that the Earle of *Westmerland* shall maintaine.

*War.* And *Warwicke* shall disprove it. You forget  
That we are those that chace'd you from the field  
And slew your father, and with colours spread  
Marcht through the Citie to the Pallas gates.

*Norrb.* No *Warwicke*, I remember't to my greefe:  
And by his soule, thou and thy house shall rewe it.

*West.* *Plantagenet* of thee and of thy sonnes,  
Thy kinsmen and thy friends, he haue more liues,  
Then drops of blood were in my fathers veines.

*Clif.* Vrge it no more, least in reuenge thereof,  
I send thee *Warwicke* such a messenger,  
As shall reuenge his death before I stirre.

*War.* Poore *Clifford*, how I scorne thy worthless threats.

*Torke.* Will ye we shew our Title to the Crowne,  
Or else our swords shall pleade it in the field?

*King.* What Title hast thou Traitor to the Crowne?  
Thy Father was as thou art, Duke of *York*:

Thy Grandfather *Roger Mortimer* Earle of *March*.  
I am the sonne of *Henry* the fifth, who ram'd the French,  
And made the Dolphin stoop; and seiz'd vpon  
Their Townes and Prouinces;

*War.* Talk not of France since thou hast lost it all.

*King.* The Lord Protector lost it, and not I,  
When I was crown'd, I was but nine months old.

*Rich.* Y'are old enough now, and yet methinkes you lose:  
Father, reare the Crowne from the Vsurpers head.

*Edw.* Do so sweet father, set it on your head.

*Mont.* Good brother, as thou lou'st and honour'st armes,  
Let's fight it out, and not stand cauilling thus.

*Rich.* Sound Drums and Trumpets, and the King will flye.

*Torke.* Peace sonnes.

*Norrb.* Peace thou, and giue King *Henry* leaue to speake.

*King.* Ah *Plantagenet*, why seek'st thou to depose me?  
Are we not both *Plantagenets* by birth?  
And from two brothers lineally descent?

Suppose

*of Torke and Lancaster.*

Suppose by right and equity thou be King:  
Think'st thou, that I will leaue my Kingly seate,  
Wherein my Father, and my Grandfire sate?  
No, first shall warre vnpople this my Realme,  
I and our Colours often borne in France,  
And now in England (to our hearts great sorrow)  
Shall be my winding sheet. Why faint you Lords?  
My Titles better farre than his.

*War.* Proue it *Henry*, and thou shalt be King.

*King.* Why *Henry* the fourth by conquest got the Crowne.

*Torke.* I was by rebellion gainst his Soueraigne.

*King.* I know not what to say, my Titles weake,  
Tell me, may not a King adopt an heire?

*War.* What then?

*King.* Then am I lawfull King. For *Richard*  
The second, in the view of many Lords,  
Resign'd the Crowne to *Henry* the fourth,  
Whose heire my Father was, and I am his.

*Torke.* I tell thee he rose against him being his Soueraigne  
And made him to resigne the Crowne perforce.

*War.* Suppose my Lord he did it unconstrain'd,  
Thinke you that were preiudiciall to the Crowne?

*Exet.* No, for he could not so resigne the Crowne,  
But that the next heyre must succede and reigne.

*King.* Art thou against vs Duke of *Exeter*?

*Exet.* His is the right, and therefore pardon me.

*King.* All will reuolt from me, and turne to him.

*Norrb.* *Plantagenet*, for all the claime thou laist,  
Thinke not King *Henry* shall be thus depos'd.

*War.* Depos'd he shall be in despite of thee.

*Nor.* Tush *Warwicke*, thou art deceiu'd:  
Tis not thy Southerne powers of *Essex*, *Suffolke*, *Norfolke*  
And *Kent*, that makes thee thus presumptuous and proud,  
Can set the Duke vp in despite of me.

*Clif.* King *Henry* be thy Title right or wrong,  
Lord *Clifford* vowes to fight in thy defence.  
May that ground gape and swallow me aliue,

I. 3.